

SADRUDDIN AGA KHAN APPOINTED CO-ORDINATOR FOR UNITED NATIONS HUMANITARIAN

AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMMES RELATING TO AFGHANISTAN

Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar today announced the appointment of Sadruddin Aga Khan as Co-ordinator for United Nations Humanitarian and Economic Assistance relating to Afghanistan. He will, in this capacity, be directly responsible to the Secretary-General for the co-ordination of all activities of the United Nations system in respect of the emergency relief and rehabilitation needs.

Sadruddin Aga Khan was a Special Consultant to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1958. He was Head of Mission and Advisor to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from 1959 to 1960. In 1961 he was appointed Special Advisor to the Director-General of UNESCO for the Organization of the Campaign for the Preservation of Nubian Monuments, and was subsequently appointed Executive Secretary of the UNESCO International Action Committee for the Preservation of Nubia.

From 1962 to 1965 Sadruddin Aga Khan served as United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees. In 1965 he was elected United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, a position he held until the end of 1977; in that capacity he also served as United Nations Co-ordinator, Special Operations for Displaced Persons in Bangladesh (1972), Uganda (1972), Sudan (1973), Chile (1973) and Cyprus (1974). In 1981 Sadruddin Aga Khan served as a Special Rapporteur of the United Nations Human Rights Commission. Since 1983 he has been the Convenor and Co-Chairman of the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues. In 1986 he was the Convenor and Co-Chairman of the Independent Working Group on the United Nations Financial Emergency: Crisis and Opportunity. In 1987 he was also a member of the International Panel of the United Nations Association (USA): Decision-Making Project on the Future of the United Nations.

Among his other activities, Sadruddin Aga Khan is the founder and President of the Bellerive Foundation and the "Groupe de Bellerive", Geneva; member of the Board of Directors of television organizations promoting global issues related to human survival (Television Trust for the Environment, UK - Better World Society, USA); member of the International Board of Directors of

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the United World Colleges; founding member of the Geneva International Peace Research Institute (GIPRI); member, Friends World-Wide Fund for Nature International (WWF); founder and Secretary of the Harvard Islamic Association; former President and founder of the Council on Islamic Affairs, New York; and member of the Board, Beijer Institute, Stockholm.

Sadruddin Aga Khan is the author of International Protection of Refugees (The Hague Academy of International Law), and of the Question of the Violation of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (a study on human rights and massive exoduses written for the United Nations Commission on Human Rights). He is the editor of the Paris Review and of Nuclear War, Nuclear Proliferation and Their Consequences (Oxford 1986).

After graduating from Harvard University in 1954, Sadruddin Aga Khan did post-graduate work at the Centre for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard, from 1955 to 1957.

He was born in Paris on 17 January 1933 and is married.

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